



Pastoral letter from the Moderator



September-October 2024

Warm Christian Greetings from the Moderator



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In times of trial and challenge, we find strength in the Word of God. Scripture reminds us, "I lift up my eyes to the mountains; where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth" (Psalm 121). Just as God watched over Israel, He watches over us today, guiding and shielding us every step of our journey. In our daily lives, let us embody the love, humility, and peace that Christ calls us to, even when we face adversity. As it is written, "By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud... and by night in a pillar of fire" (Exodus 13:21). May we always remember that His presence and wisdom guide us, both day and night, and let us strive to live with kindness, understanding, and compassion toward one another.

Today, Bangladesh is at a crossroads, facing complex political, social, and economic uncertainties that test our patience and unity. Amid these challenges, let us take comfort in the words of scripture: "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with

wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31). We are reminded that patience is a virtue that allows God to work in His timing, and as His faithful, we are called to trust Him deeply in these times. We must continue to act with integrity, empathy, and unwavering hope, encouraging each other to uphold justice and understanding in our society.

The Church of Bangladesh, by God's grace, continues to flourish in faith and ministry. With nearly 30,000 members, we are blessed with a devoted community across our seven deaneries. However, like any body of believers, we face difficulties. Only a small number are spreading false information, attempting to harm the Church's reputation by misusing digital platforms. Their efforts to create and share misleading content aim to weaken our community's unity. In such moments, we must respond not with anger, but with compassion, always aiming to foster reconciliation. As Christ reminds us, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:21). In this era of digital technology, let us be discerning, avoid letting these distractions cloud our mission, and remain committed to the principles of honesty, transparency, and mutual respect.

Some of our elderly members sometimes feel adrift, and some of our youth are led astray, mirroring the betrayal of Judas Iscariot. Yet, amid these hardships, the majority of our congregation remains steadfast, committed to faith, hope, and unity. We are called to be a church of inclusivity and forgiveness, helping one another through life's challenges. Let us respond to these challenges with forgiveness and trust in God, who calls us to love even when others fail us. We must seek to listen, guide, and support each other, nurturing a community where every person feels valued, respected, and loved.

In these times, your prayers are our strength. We believe in the power of forgiveness and seek His guidance to stay true to our values, as together we walk in His light. May we continue to uphold the virtues of compassion, integrity, and kindness as we move forward.

May God bless you and keep you, guiding you in all your ways.

In Christ's Love and Peace,

The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin